

**Basin Baptist Church**  
announces  
VBS plans



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**INSIDE**

Elba 8U all-stars  
advance to state  
tournament in  
baseball



# The Elba Clipper

Volume 127, Number 04 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, June 15, 2023 1 Section, 8 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

## Four arrested in Coffee County on controlled substance charges

Deputies with the Coffee County Sheriff's Department arrested four individuals Monday night, June 12, on drug charges to include possession of a controlled substance.

According to Coffee County Jail records, Teresa Spears, age 51, of Jack, Ala., was booked into the jail at 8:37 p.m. Monday night on the charges of possession of a controlled substance, and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia.

At 8:51 p.m., Sherry Chapman, age 33, of Brundidge, Ala., and Brandy Wharton, age 34, of Vernon, Ala., were booked into the county jail. They too had been arrested on the charges of possession of a controlled substance, and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia.

Then, at 9:03 p.m. Monday night, Coffee County Jail records show the booking of John Ward, age 57, of Jack, Ala., on the charges of possession of



Spears



Chapman



Wharton



Ward

a controlled substance and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia.

As of press time this week, all four suspects remained in the county jail awaiting bond to be set on the charges they face.



Storms moved through Monday night...

This downed oak tree could be seen in the front yard of a Claxton Avenue home Tuesday morning, June 13th. It's demise was seemingly from stormy weather that moved through the local area Monday night. Early Tuesday morning, City of Elba crews were cutting limbs from this tree away from the roadway to reduce any safety hazards. Fortunately, when the tree fell during the storm, it did not appear to damage any structures. A large downed tree also was found in the yard of a Highland Drive residence Tuesday morning as well. Again, no structure damages seemed to occur.

## Elba BOE votes to hire special education coordinator for system

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Elba Board of Education met Tuesday evening, June 6, for a special called meeting, and several personnel matters were recommended and approved during the short meeting.

Superintendent Chris Moseley presented three Elba High School resignations for the board to consider. These included Amanda Zorn, English teacher; Austin Johnson, ACCESS facilitator; and Anna Harrelson, math teacher. Moseley said each of the three were resigning because they had accepted new positions elsewhere.

The board also approved a hire for the high school. Upon recommendation, Carolin McDaniel was hired as a math teacher for

the high school. Moseley said she would be coming to Elba from Daleville City Schools.

For Elba Elementary School, Masie Edge, nurse, and Emily Alverson, teacher, were approved for rehire. Also, Emily Dale Kennington was approved for hire as a new teacher at the elementary school.

School system rehires approved included Ciara Magwood with the CNP department, and Mary Thompson was rehired to the position of career coach.

The superintendent also recommended the board approve the hire of Tyler Booker as the school system's new special education coordinator. He said Booker would be coming to Elba from county school system, and he is highly qualified for the position.

## NOTICE

The City of Elba and Elba Water & Electric offices will be closed Monday, June 19, in observance of the Juneteenth holiday.

Any emergency with utilities during this time should be reported to the Elba Police Department by calling (334) 897-2555, and on-call crews will be notified.

## Former Enterprise police officer enters guilty plea for multiple sex offenses

On Thursday, June 8, Tomas Arias Jr., appeared in the Circuit Court of Coffee County, Enterprise Division, for jury selection on a 14-count indictment of numerous sex offenses, to include sodomy - first degree - of a child less than 12 years of age.

Arias is a former Enterprise Police Officer and was terminated from his position following these allegations being brought to light.

The victims of the crimes were Arias' own children. Following the jury selection, Arias entered into a plea agreement with the State of Alabama wherein he would plead guilty to all charges against him and receive a 35-year sentence to be executed in the Alabama Department of Corrections. Under Alabama law, due to the nature of the crimes for which he has now pleaded guilty, Arias will serve his 35-year sentence day-for-day. He will not be eligible for parole or early release.

The state was represented by Assistant District Attorney Jeremy Mitchell.

"I hate that we had victims in this case, and I hate that they were the defendant's daughters," Mitchell said. "However, I am so



Tomas Arias Jr.

proud of how brave these girls were throughout this entire process. I am glad that we were able to reach this agreement to protect them from having to go through a trial."

District Attorney James Tarbox said, "There are no winners today. This is a

sad case, but we are grateful that it has finally concluded. This matter was only worsened by the fact that Mr. Arias was a police officer and violated the public trust. He knew how cases like these are investigated and he knew exactly what process these victims were going to have to go through for an investigation and trial. I am very thankful for the work of ADA Jeremy Mitchell and our entire office on this case. Jeremy led the way in preparing for trial and our team made sure that these victims were properly represented and cared for during this entire process."

Judge Henry "Sonny" Reagan ordered Arias to be immediately remanded to the custody of the Coffee

County Sheriff's Office for execution of the 35-year sentence.

## ATM machine disabled following robbery attempt last week...



Barricaded with orange cones, the ATM at the Elba branch of Troy Bank and Trust has been down since Thursday morning, June 8th. From a distance, it does not appear that anything is wrong with the ATM, but a closer look shows evidence of an attempted robbery of the ATM, which occurred sometime late Wednesday night into early Thursday morning last week. An attempted robbery of the ATM was reported to Elba Police just after 12:30 a.m. last Thursday morning. Reportedly, the person or persons responsible for this attempt tried to break into the ATM using a sledgehammer. No further details have been released by authorities.

## Elba City Council reappoints two to cemetery board

During the Elba City Council meeting held Monday evening, June 12, city clerk Sally Bane said construction crews are continuing to work on the Martin Luther King Drive water main replacement project.

"This project is running very smoothly, but traffic delays are still to be expected," Bane said. "We

apologize for any inconvenience."

Once the water main replacement is complete, she said Martin Luther King Drive would be repaved.

Bane also noted that the Elba Parks and Recreation Department had been hosting the Dixie Youth Baseball district tournament for the 10U age group with games set to wrap up

Monday night.

"I cannot thank our recreation team enough," she said. "They have worked very hard on the fields. Multiple visitors have commented on how nice our facility is and how well-organized the tournament was for everyone."

In other recreation news,

See ELBA, Page 3

## Area Happenings

**The Elba Lions Club will meet** Tuesday, June 27, at 6 p.m., at the Elba Senior Citizens Center in downtown Elba. All members are encouraged to be present.

**The Elba Public Library's Summer Learning Program** will be held June 1 - July 28 this year. This program is fun for all ages, including adults. For more information, call (334) 897-6921 or email - library@elbaal.gov.

**A book signing with Evangelist Shirley Pruitt** will be held Friday, June 30, at the Elba Public Library beginning at 11 a.m. Pruitt, an Elba native, is the author of "I Will Not Be Denied".

**Elba's Fourth of July celebration - Let Freedom Ring** - will be Tuesday, July 4, on the square in downtown Elba. Sponsored by the Elba Chamber of Commerce and City of Elba, the event will begin at 6 p.m. and will include a golf cart parade, inflatables for kids, contests, food concessions, entertainment by Blind Skeleton [featuring Elba native Bill Brueckner], and, of course, fireworks! Make plans now to spend the 4th in Elba.

## REMINDER

The last day to register for youth football/cheer with the Elba Parks and Recreation is Friday, June 30th. Registration can be completed online at [elba.recdesk.com](http://elba.recdesk.com)



## EDITORIAL

## BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"The greatest of faults, I should say, is to be conscious of none." — Thomas Carlyle

Montgomery Fire Rescue (MFR) officials have issued warnings that scammers are using the names of five recently injured fire fighters to raise (unauthorized) funds. The efforts of the MFR to assist in the health issues with these firefighters is being handled by the Montgomery Alabama Fire Rescue Foundation through the Central Alabama Community Foundation. Even if a person receives a phone call claiming to be from one of the approved organizations, it is best to hang up the phone and contact the group at < <https://cacinfo.org/give/montgomery-alabama-fire-rescue-foundation/> > or mail them a check made out to the Foundation. In another 'warning' we read the advice that if mailing any kind of check, to anyone, drop it in a secure drop box only accessible by postal workers. The con artists are working overtime to steal your money!

The 'news' last week about the federal charges against Donald Trump was not news to anyone who had been following the news (or had listened to Trump announce the pending arrest days earlier). Now the speculation over 'what is next?' has begun. The truth of the matter is that none of us really know, and the possibilities are all over the board. Personally, we don't expect to see him spend a single day in jail. First off his ability to stall things with endless appeals is well known. Next, there is the friendly judge aspect, and a judge has lots of options to derail any conviction and/or actual jail time. Then there is the upcoming presidential race that will play who-knows-what with the court proceedings and any legal related outcome. There have been predictions that Trump will drop out of the race 'if convicted', but none of that is coming from Trump himself. To the contrary, he has said publicly that he will not withdraw from the presidential race regardless of the outcome of the indictments.

There are opinion pieces over the impact the indictments will have on the above mentioned presidential campaign. In one thirty-minute span Monday morning we read of all the GOP followers who are leaving the Trump camp and on the next page read an opinion article about the Biden supporters who were leaving his camp. Frankly, neither of those opinions are worth the time it took to write, nor read them, as they are only opinions and even if correct today, are meaningless on an election day that is months away. American voters are not known for being stable!

We didn't realize the weather was so bad Monday night until driving to work Tuesday morning and saw that gigantic oak tree (probably older than anyone in Elba) on the ground! City crews were cutting back the massive limbs hanging in the highway. We understand this was one of several that were downed during the bad weather but thankfully there were no injuries reported. There was a very short outage of power in parts of Elba. Our electric clock on the kitchen stove lost three minutes, so it was a very short outage.

## Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Tuesday, June 6, 2023, and Monday, June 12, 2023, conducted the following activity:

**Tuesday, June 6** – Suspicious person reported at 816 Rebecca Lane (1:31 a.m.); Suspicious person reported at 1698 Hickman Ave (3:15 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1697 Lower Curtis Rd (5:55 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1116 Caroline St – w/impound (8:39 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 835 County Rd 401 (9:38 a.m.); Escapace reported at 230 Court Ave (10:00 a.m.); Man with a gun reported on Payne St (3:53 p.m.). Two traffic stops resulted in written warnings.

**Wednesday, June 7** – Burglary reported at 1498 Smith Ave (1:08 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 702 Hwy 203 (2:58 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at Sunset Blvd and Hwy 203 – w/arrest (5:00 p.m.); Reckless driver reported on the Troy Hwy – w/verbal warning (8:51 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning.

**Thursday, June 8** – Robbery reported at 429 Claxton Ave N (12:38 a.m.); Criminal mischief reported at 441 Plant Ave (2:58 p.m.); Disturbance reported at 777 Claxton Ave N (3:20 p.m.).

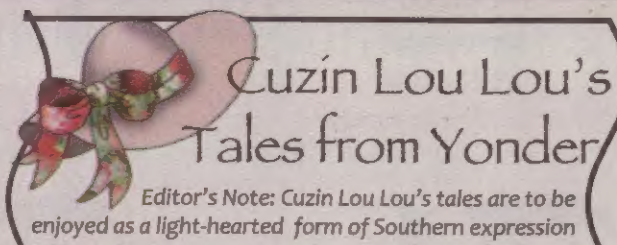
**Friday, June 9** – Fire reported at 636 Reese Ave (5:02 a.m.); Traffic accident reported at Hwy 87 and Hwy 84 intersection (3:58 p.m.); Suspicious person reported at the Pea River bridge on E Davis St (9:35 p.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 835 Troy Hwy (10:48 p.m.). Two traffic stops resulted in verbal warnings.

**Saturday, June 10** – Traffic accident reported at Hwy 84/87 (3:11 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 731 West Ave (11:04 p.m.); Livestock in the roadway reported at 1303 Reese

Ave (11:06 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a citation.

**Sunday, June 11** – Suspicious vehicle reported at 976 Morrow Ave (1:19 a.m.); Suspicious circumstances reported at 215 Plant Ave (6:32 a.m.); Trespassing reported at 827 Washington Ave (9:45 a.m.); Domestic complaint reported at 878 Claxton Ave N (1:22 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 816 Putnam St (4:42 p.m.); Theft of property reported at 329 Solie Dr (5:30 p.m.); Verbal altercation reported at 835 Troy Hwy (7:04 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 672 Herman Driggers Dr (7:32 p.m.); Harassing communications reported at 885 Cedar Lane Dr (8:21 p.m.). One traffic stop resulted in a verbal warning.

**Monday, June 12** – Drug activity reported at 990 Hwy 203 (9:19 a.m.); Drug activity reported on Jackson St (11:35 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 1056 Country Rd 615 (11:38 a.m.); Animal complaint reported at 529 Claxton Ave N (1:09 p.m.); Equipment fire reported at 19734 Hwy 87 (2:37 p.m.); Traffic accident reported at 804 Hwy 203 (2:53 p.m.); Animal complaint reported at 838 Claxton Ave N (3:37 p.m.); Breaking and entering of a motor vehicle reported at 612 Adams Ave (6:43 p.m.); Harassment reported at 744 County Rd 401 (6:57 p.m.); Child abuse reported at Elba Police (7:39 p.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported at 221 Davis St E (9:30 p.m.).



Editor's Note: Cuzin Lou Lou's tales are to be enjoyed as a light-hearted form of Southern expression

Cuzin Lou Lou and Sister ventured off last week to go to a concert in a neighboring state, and as always it was an adventure.

The first oops of the trip came when the two arrived at their hotel for the night. Lou Lou had driven four hours away from home when she realized she did not have her driver's license!

Fortunately, Lou Lou had the proper documentation to show that corresponded with the reservation information, and since Sister has the same address as Lou Lou the hotel staff accepted her driver's license in place of Lou Lou's.

With that potential issue averted...the next problem was the realization that Sister would have to be the "driver" for the remainder of the trip! The good news was the travel route did not involve any "hectic" traffic areas, so, Sister accepted her fate, and she handled it well. Thank goodness...for Lou Lou's sake.

Second oops of the trip came upon arrival at the concert venue! The proverbial bottom fell out as they arrived at the venue!

Like many others attending the concert, Lou Lou and Sister decided to wait it out in the car until the worst of the rainstorm moved away from the area, but they did not manage to escape it completely. Once the rain let up "enough" for

them to make their way to the venue entrance, Sister took her flip flops off and the two tried their best to share an umbrella...it did not go so well!

By the time they made it to the venue's shelter, both were soaked. Lou Lou only had to remind Sister once, as she was complaining about her wet clothing, that everyone else was in the same predicament.

Next came the big "wow" of the night! Lou Lou and Sister ventured over to the snack bar only to find that bottles of water could be purchased for \$7 each, while 'other beverages' were as high as \$15 each!

"What in the name of Yonder?!?" was all Lou Lou could manage to get out of her mouth when she saw the prices! Still, she bit the bullet and paid the price!

Later on in the evening, Lou Lou was in need of something more to drink when she realized Sister had only taken a few gulps from her \$7 water. It was at this point when Sister informed her that she had drank all she was planning to from the bottle.

"Oh, no ma'am! That's a \$7 bottle of water! I'll drink it!" was Lou Lou's response to that revelation!

While it may have only been the dumb version of water because the "Smart" water was \$11 per bottle... it was still \$7 water!! Dumb or not, it was going to be consumed, and Lou Lou drank every single drop!

Looking past the no driver's license, soaking rain, \$7 bottles of water, and even \$40 concert t-shirts, it was an overall great trip for Lou Lou and Sister. The concert tickets were a Christmas gift from Lou Lou to Sister, and it was a fantastic concert with priceless memories made! It would pain Lou Lou to have to pay that much for a bottle of water again, but she'd do it in a heartbeat simply because it was part of making memories with Sister!

Oh yeah! Lou Lou found her license upon return home too!

Until next time...God Bless and Keep Smiling!

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## Obituaries

Obits are updated regularly on our website: [www.elba-clipper.com](http://www.elba-clipper.com)

### BONITA JUNE MCDANIEL DESTIN

Ms. Bonita June McDaniel Destin, age 64, died Friday, June 9, 2023, in Destin, Fla., with her family by her side following a hard-fought battle with cancer.

She was born on Sept. 5, 1958, in Elba, Ala., to Henry Clinton McDaniel and Elsie Dell McDaniel and was the only girl of six children. Bonita spent her life working in the Destin restaurant industry.

Graveside services were held Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at Mt. Gilead Baptist Church in Elba. A memorial service will be held in Destin, Fla., at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please make memorial donations to Road Dogg Rescue in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. to honor Bonita's love of dogs. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba is serving the Destin family.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Jeff, Frankie, and Tony (Miki) McDaniel.

Survivors include her daughter: Kristin (Jared) Kimmons; grandchildren: Lucas Bowen and William Kimmons; brothers: Rudy Williams and Robin (Vanessa) McDaniel; along with a host of other family; and her beloved companion, Bojangles.

### DENNIS IRVIN JOHNSON

Mr. Dennis Irvin Johnson, age 73, of Athens, Ala., died Thursday, June 8, 2023, at Diversicare of Big Springs in Huntsville, Ala.

Funeral services were held Monday, June 12, 2023, from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba, Ala., with Rev. Derek Snellgrove officiating. Burial services followed in the Whitewater Baptist Church Cemetery.

He was preceded in death by his parents - Irvin and Margaret Johnson; and by a sister - Ida Strickland.

Survivors include his wife: Ollie Sue Johnson, Athens; daughters: Kimberly (Chris) Renfro, Pearl, Miss., and Kelli (Ashley) Taylor, Gautier, Miss.; son: Wesley (Jessica) Johnson, Marion Junction, Ala.; sister: Lonza J. (James) Farkas, Coffee

Springs, Ala.; grandchildren: Abigail Johnson, Zechariah Johnson, Daniel Johnson, Jeremiah Johnson, Noah Taylor, Hannah Taylor, Andrew Taylor, Alexandra Taylor, Robby (Kaetlyn) Gross, Matthew Gross, Luke Gross, Ryan Renfro, Madden Renfro, and Kaylee Grace Renfro.

### GREGG PRETTYMAN

Mr. Gregg Prettyman, age 60, a resident of Elba, Ala., died Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at Flowers Hospital in Dothan, Ala.

Memorial services will be held at a later date to be announced. Hayes Funeral Home of Elba is serving the Prettyman family.

Gregg was preceded in death by his wife, Janice Prettyman; a son, Jeremiah Prettyman; along with his parents, Mary Dianne and Ray LaVerne Prettyman.

Survivors include his sons: Joshua Prettyman, Ezekiel Prettyman, and Robert Cullum, all of Elba; daughters: Brandie Prettyman, Tyra Bradley, and Selenia Martinelli, all of Elba, and Brianna Prettyman, Spokane, Wash.; brothers: Jed Prettyman, Corinth, Miss., and Joe Prettyman, Linden, Texas; sisters: Sheryl McClellan, Jean Pascal, and Sue Chezem, all of Linden, Texas, and Judy Adams, Eau Claire, Wis.; 15 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and a host of friends.

### JOANN PARKER

Mrs. JoAnn Parker, age 87, of Elba, Ala., died Saturday, June 10, 2023, at Southeast Health in Dothan, Ala.

In accordance with her wishes, disposition will be by cremation and no formal services will be held at this time. Hayes Funeral

Home of Elba is serving the Parker family.

She was preceded in death by her parents - J.D. and Vera Hudson, and grandson - Brian Parker.

Survivors include her husband: Hugh W. Parker, Elba; daughters: Jennifer (Bradley) Mueller, Sunrise, Fla., and Felicia (Emad) Farag, McLean, Va.; son: David Parker, Elba; granddaughters: Stacey Parker (Tim Peters), St. Louis, Mo., and Hadley Mueller, Sunrise, Fla.; grandsons: Eric Mueller, Sunrise, and Jonathan (Rosie) Farag, Washington, DC; great-grandson: Jaxon Parker, St. Louis.

### WILLIAM GREGORY "GREG" BRUNSON

Mr. William Gregory "Greg" Brunson, age 66, of Elba, Ala., died Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at his home.

Arrangements will be announced upon completion by Hayes Funeral Home of Elba.

## ELBA

(Continued from Page 1)

Bane said the Elba 8U all-stars also completed in the district tournament for their age group in Geneva. She said this young group of athletes had represented Elba well and would be advancing to the state tournament later this month.

Also, Bane said that Elba and New Brockton had combined to form 8U and 10U girls softball Coffee County all-star teams. Those teams are set to begin tournament play this Thursday in Enterprise, Ala.

In other business, the council voted to approve monthly bills totaling \$250,560.08. They also voted to reappoint Beverly McCall and Peggy Stroud to new terms on the Elba Cemetery Board.

The next Elba City Council meeting will be Monday evening, June 26, at 5:30 p.m. at Elba City Hall.



The 2023 Miss Coffee County Queens were recognized Monday morning, June 12, during the Coffee County Commission meeting. The queens were introduced by Coffee County Pageants director Ashley Merritt (standing at podium). As each queen was introduced, Coffee County Commission chairman Dean Smith presented her with a pin from the county commission. Queens present Monday included Miss Coffee County Mackenzie Alford, Junior Miss Coffee County Ryleigh Scarlett, Little Miss Coffee County Ada Donaldson, and Future Little Miss Coffee County Adalynn Bryant. Not presented was Teen Miss Coffee County Adalynne Adkison, and Petite Miss Coffee County Sophie Prescott.

## Coffee County Commissioners vote to adopt new driveway installation policy

Coffee County Commissioners voted Monday morning, June 12, during their regular meeting to implement a new driveway installation policy for the county's highway department.

County engineer Marty Lentz said this is something the county had been working on for some time now. Under the current policy, he said the property owner would pay for the driveway pipe and then county forces would install the driveway. He said the pipe could be purchased from the county or a private business, but the installation work was done by the county.

During the past fiscal year, he said the county installed 166 driveways.

"When the sun is shining, we are probably putting in a driveway," Lentz said.

Due to increased population in the county, he said the demand for driveways had increased drastically. Already this fiscal year [since Oct. 1], Lentz said the county had installed 87 driveways.

Looking at cost assessment, those 87 driveways cost \$51,065 for pipe [paid by the property owner]

while Lentz said the cost of labor, equipment, and other materials used by the county cost approximately \$118,485 [subsidized cost to the county].

Under the proposed new driveway installation policy, Lentz said the cost of installation would be assessed to the property owner at a rate of \$60 per linear foot. He said the property owner would still be required to get approval from the county on location/size of the driveway.

However, under the new policy, the property owner would be given the option of either hiring the county for installation [at the \$60/linear foot rate], or the county would issue a permit to the property owner allowing for a private contractor to be hired - the contractor would be required to be licensed and bonded to do the proper installation work.

Lentz said he feels the new policy would be beneficial to the county as it would relieve county forces in the amount of time spent installing driveways, but it would still ensure quality work if a private contractor is hired. He recommended approving the new policy,

## Local DAV meeting set for June 22nd

The June 2023 meeting for the DAV Wiregrass Chapter 99, located in New Brockton, Ala. will be held Thursday June 22, at 6 PM.

The meeting will take place in the New Brockton Senior Center, New Brockton. Nominations

for chapter positions for the upcoming year will be accepted.

All members that can attend, are asked to attend. For further information contact Charles Lobdell at 334-718-5707 or Mike Doran at 334-406-6700.



Longtime Elba City Schools teacher Brian Weeks (left) was presented this plaque upon his retirement at the end of the 2022-2023 school years. Weeks taught over 30 years at Elba High School. Principal Wynn Grimes presented the plaque to his colleague and friend.



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The first thing you should know about grief is that there's no one right way to do it. All of us express emotions differently. That has everything to do with the way our brains are wired, and nothing to do with how much we do or don't love the person who passed.

For example, some people may cry throughout the grieving process, while others don't shed a single tear. Both are completely acceptable ways of dealing with bereavement. Similarly, some may want to be surrounded by friends, never to be left alone, while others may crave solitude. Again, both approaches are reasonable and natural.

One caveat to this: There's no "right way" of dealing with grief, but it's important to ensure that your bereavement doesn't compromise your physical health, either because you stop eating, stop sleeping, or fall into self-medication. Additionally, dealing with grief means allowing yourself to feel and experience it. Trying to ignore your grief, or to bottle it up in some way, can ultimately be self-destructive.

Take care of yourself, and channel your heartache through positive means - but don't let anyone make you feel like your expression of grief is inadequate. That's not going to accomplish anything but making your bereavement more difficult.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at [hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net](mailto:hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net)  
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## PASTOR'S CORNER

by Steve Reneau, Pastor

Elba United Methodist Church

I invite you to read Matthew 9:9-13, and then read the article below.

The Apple television show Ted Lasso, has seemingly become a cultural phenomenon over its three season run. Many chalk this up to the titular character Ted Lasso, a football coach out of Kansas who is hired by an English soccer club to help turn the club around. Of course, this is all a ruse, the owner of the club wants Ted to fail. Yet, over time she, and really all who encounter Ted, comes to love him and want him to succeed. Many have speculated why we the audience and those in Ted's live come to love him so is his unflinching optimism and positivity. Seemingly, Ted makes everyone of his enemies, from a club owner who wants him to fail to a sports reporter who thinks he never should have been hired, into people who love him. Yet, anyone who watches the show knows, Ted is not always optimistic and positive. He suffers from depression, a failing marriage, a fledgling coaching career, and strained relationship with his mother. So, why is he so beloved? It did not dawn on me until one of the last episodes of the show when his assistant coach and longtime friend tells another character who has betrayed Ted how they initially met. Ted and he played football together, but were on the bench mostly. They worked out together and formed a friendship that faded after school. Ted went into coaching and his friend went to prison. When he got out of prison, the only person who would give him a second chance was Ted. He moved into his house, ate his food, and stole his car. When the police caught him, Ted explained that he had leant his car and it wasn't stolen, took his friend back, and even helped him get a job.

The secret to why those around Ted Lasso love him so much is because of how he shows mercy. Mercy is forgiveness shown toward another who deserves to be punished. In Matthew's Gospel, he shares with us how he first encountered Jesus. Matthew was at work as a tax collector, astoundingly an even more despised profession than we may even imagine. Tax collectors like Matthew work for the foreign, occupying Roman Empire; they were traitors who fleeced their own people and families. Yet, Jesus calls Matthew to be one of his disciples. He even goes to Matthew's house and eats a meal with him. Religious authorities are shocked that Jesus would do such a thing. They are astounded that Jesus would share a meal with such terrible people. Yet, how does Jesus respond? He quotes Hosea 6 back to them that what God desires is mercy and not sacrifice.

We are taught in our world that mercy is for the weak. If you were to ask people to finish the phrase "show no..." they would respond with "mercy." Yet, though we are afraid to show mercy, we know that we each are in desperate need of it. It is hard to show mercy, because by its definition those being shown mercy do not deserve it. We wish we could be more merciful. We yearn to show mercy and to be shown mercy. Sometimes we'd rather sacrifice our time, our talent, our treasure, but to actually show mercy to those in our lives who've wronged us is much farther than we would be willing to go. Yet, God desires mercy over sacrifice.

Perhaps there is someone in your life right now that needs to be shown mercy. Yes, you can think of the numerous reasons why they shouldn't be shown mercy, but yet we are called to be merciful. This does not mean that we can invite another through mercy to continue to harm us, but it takes great strength, not weakness, to be merciful. When we show mercy, there is a blessing. In fact Jesus promises us earlier in Matthew's Gospel in chapter 5 that those who give mercy will also receive mercy. So, let us be strong and show mercy.

## Get excited for VBS!

Elba United Methodist Church

Monday, June 19, thru Thursday, June 22

5:30 - 7:30 each night

Location: Elba UMC Community Life Center

Ages: Infant - Rising 5th Graders

Fill out the VBS Registration Form at: [elbaumc.com](http://elbaumc.com)

\*\* Bring the Release Form when you drop off your child

## Jack Assembly of God set to host VBS nightly June 19-23

Jack Assembly of God Church, located at 2200 County Rd. 208, Jack, Ala., will host Vacation Bible School from 6-8 p.m. nightly, June 19th-23rd.

There will be games, food and fun as all learn about following Jesus. Ages: Nursery through Teens.

Registration underway for Greater New Zion MB Church VBS. Greater New Zion Missionary Baptist Church will have Vacation Bible School, June 19-21. Registration can be completed at [greaternewzionbaal@gmail.com](mailto:greaternewzionbaal@gmail.com) or the Greater New Zion Facebook page. All welcome.

## Chestnut Grove Methodist Church plans July 9th homecoming services

Chestnut Grove Methodist Church will hold its annual Homecoming Service on Sunday, July 9, beginning at 10:30 a.m. music will be by the Barnes Family, Willing Vessels, and Ernie Ray Keal. After the service lunch will be provided. Everyone is welcome.

Guest speaker will be Justin Barnes. Special

## Mt. Calvary Baptist Church to hold Family and Friends Day on Sunday

Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, located on County Road 528, will hold Family and Friends Day on Sunday June 18, at 11 a.m. Lunch to follow. Pastor is James Hill. Everyone is invited.

## "Happy Days Ahead" Mental Health Peer Support Group meets Monday nights at the Rabbit Hole in Elba, Ala.

The "Happy Days Ahead" Mental Health Peer Support Group meets every Monday night at the Rabbit Hole, 218 Factory Ave., Elba, beginning at 6 p.m. This is a safe, confidential space to talk, network and grow in recovery. For more information, contact Rory Vignola on Facebook.

Happy Dad's Day!

## Round and About

With Eria's Daughter

334-282-2200



Scripture: Oppressed by the wicked but Rejoicing in the Lord. Psalm 64: 1-10

### Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Rosemary Edwards, Patrice Duncan, Isaiah Tate Kelley, Betty Moore, Melonie Lands, Juanita Jackson, Rita Gray, Debra R. Siler, Clarice Fitch

### July Birthdays / Anniversaries

Connie Bones 7/13  
Jakori J. Warren 7/13  
Brandon Wade 7/13  
Tarell Kelley 7/17  
Tevin Kelley 7/17  
Steve Wright 7/17  
Reginald and Priscilla Sanders 7/17 W.A.  
Ida Martin 7/17  
Christina Woods  
Timberlake 7/17  
Ella Noel Kelley 7/18  
Frank Morris 7/18  
Terry Culver 7/19  
Beverly Hamilton 7/19

### Everlasting Possession

In 1831, Joseph Smith and his followers moved West to establish a communal society. They tried settling in various places, but strife seemed to follow them everywhere they went, often prompted by their nonbiblical doctrine. The Mormons, as they came to be called, eventually began a colony in Nauvoo, Illinois. Smith was jailed in 1844 in nearby Carthage on a charge of riot (the charge was upgraded to treason). While incarcerated, he was killed by mob action on July 27, 1844.

Brigham Young succeeded Smith as leader. Young sought a promised land where his people would be free from the kind of strife that had dogged them. When in 1847 the travelers reached the valley of the Great Salt Lake in what is now Utah, Young said, "This is the place." The rest, as they say, is history. Speaking of history, much

of the teaching of Smith and Young is erroneous in that regard. One error was their supposition that a "promised land" could be found on earth. The opposite is true: we are "strangers and pilgrims" on earth [1 Peter 2:11], where we "pass the time...sojourning...in fear" [1:17]. Our promised land is not a geographical location. Ultimately, neither was Abraham's. Even though "by faith he sojourned in the land of promise...he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" [Hebrews 11:9, 10]. May we do so as well. -- C.R.B.

### Question / Answer Section

Q/A for the Week of 6/15/23

Fill in the Blanks  
Q: The honor for Sisera's defeat would not go to Barak, but to a \_\_\_\_\_.

A: Woman [Judges 4:9]

Q: At the burning bush, Moses was told to take off his shoes because the place where he was standing was \_\_\_\_\_.

A: Holy Ground [Exodus 3:5]

### Thought to Remember

Each new day is a gift from God. How you live it is your gift to Him.

### Questions for the Week of 6/22/23

Fill in the Blanks

Q: God resists the \_\_\_\_\_ but gives grace to the \_\_\_\_\_.

Q: By loving the brethren, we pass from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

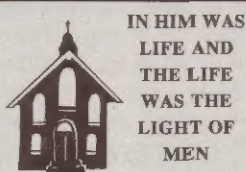
Q: The three that bear witness in earth are the spirit, the water, and the \_\_\_\_\_.

Today is a good day! Be grateful.

Eria's Daughter, Sue



# Church Directory



IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN

**ABOUNDING GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Rockey Pearce, Pastor  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.

**ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH**  
Samson, Pastor  
Morn. Worship...10:30 a.m.  
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

**ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sam Self, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:30 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:30 a.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet. 6:30 p.m.

**BETHEL AME CHURCH**  
Deborah A. Butler, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study...6:00 p.m.

**BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:30 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Class...6:30 p.m.

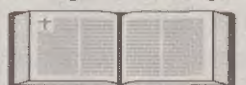
**BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Greg Cottar, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Disciple Train...5:30 p.m.  
Even. Worship...6:00 p.m.

**BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Robert Davis, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship...6:00 p.m.

**CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST CHURCH**  
Remonia Smith, Pastor  
Church Service...9:00 a.m.  
2nd & 4th Sundays  
Sunday School...9:00 a.m.  
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
2nd & 4th Sundays

**CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH**  
Larry Mills, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Night...7:00 p.m.



**COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Paul Jackson, Pastor  
Sunday Fellowship 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Wed. Night "Peak of the Week" and meal...5:30 p.m.  
Bible Study & Prayer...6:15 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

**DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Steve Watson, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Discipleship Training 5:00 p.m.  
Even. Worship...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet. 7:00 p.m.

**EAON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Mark Ward, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:30 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study...6:15 p.m.

**ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Philip Box, Minister  
Bible Study...9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study...6:30 p.m.

**ELBA CHURCH OF GOD**  
David Noble, Pastor  
Morn. Worship...10:45 a.m.  
Even. Worship...5:00 p.m.

**ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY**  
H.L. Buckner, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Night...6:00 p.m.  
Thur. Night...7:00 p.m.

**ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE**  
Allen Richards, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service...7:00 p.m.

**ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Dwight Johnson, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:30 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:30 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service...6:30 p.m.

**ELBA FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Kit Johnson, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service...6:30 p.m.

**ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
Steve Reneau, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Even. Services...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study...6:00 p.m.

**ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Lorell Martin, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.

**EVANGELIST TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
Timothy Williams, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:30 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:30 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study...6:00 p.m.

**FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet 7:30 p.m.

**FAITH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Phillip Adecek, Pastor  
Sunday Morning...10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Evening...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD - KINSTON**  
Danny Brndshaw, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study...7:00 p.m.

**FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Scott Donaldson, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**FRIENDSHIP HOLINESS CHURCH**  
Edward E. Drake, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship...5:00 p.m.  
Sunday Evening...5:00 p.m.

**GODS POWER HOUSE EVANGELISTIC CHURCH**  
Overseers: Billy Berry  
Sat. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Sun. Service...10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...4:00 p.m.

**GRACE FELLOWSHIP**  
John Curtis Isaacs, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service...7:00 p.m.

**GREATER NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Marvin Luckett Jr., Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Bible Study...6:00 p.m.

**HARRIS TEMPLE COGIC**  
W. K. Ellison, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Wed. Service...6:00 p.m.

**HAW HILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Shirley Ellis, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet. 7:00 p.m.

**HEBRON BAPT. CHURCH**  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:30 p.m.  
Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**HOLY TEMPLE COGIC**  
Glenwood, AL  
Sunday Prayer...9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Worship Service...11:00 a.m.

**INO ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Wesley D. Ard, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

**INO BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Garry Winstead, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m.

**JACK ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Matthew Morris, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 7:15 p.m.

**KINSTON 1st BAPT CHURCH**  
Heath Fountain, Pastor  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School...9:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.

**LIVING WORD CHURCH**  
Derrick Stinson, Pastor  
Saturday Service...9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Service...10:30 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Youth Service 6:00 p.m.  
Thurs. Service...6:00 p.m.

**LIBERTY CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Greg Hanchey, Minister  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.

**LOVE'S WAY CHURCH**  
Charles Jones, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Evening...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service...7:00 p.m.

**MT. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
J. R. Paster, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
1st & 3rd Sundays

**MT. GILEAD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Dewey Emfinger, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Evening...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service...5:00 p.m.

**MT. OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Olan Strickland, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

**MT. ZION BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Will Jordan, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.

**MT. VERNON ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.

**Cathedral of the Holy Spirit NEW ABUNDANT LIFE DEL.**  
Linda Williams, Pastor  
Sunday...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Even...7:30 p.m.

**NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST - ENTERPRISE**  
W. K. Ellison, Pastor  
Morning Worship...9:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship...6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday Evening...7:00 p.m.  
Friday Evening...7:00 p.m.

**NEWBIA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Ed Russell, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Disciple Train...5:00 p.m.  
Evening Worship...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

**NEW BROCKTON METHODIST CHURCH**  
Dr. Craig Bailey, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Study...6:30 p.m.

**NEW CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Terry Godwin, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Bible Study...5:00 p.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet. 6:00 p.m.

**NEW EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Randall Pearson, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:30 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet. 6:00 p.m.

**NEW GLORIOUS COGIC**  
James Starks Jr., Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship...6:00 p.m.  
Bib Stud Wed...6:00 p.m.

**NEW HAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Allen Dias, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet. 6:30 p.m.

**NEW HAVEN ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH**  
Brad Sasser, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Even. Service 6:30 p.m.

**NEW HOPE BAPT CHURCH**  
Lanny Shepard, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

**THE WAY OF HOLINESS CHURCH**  
Erla Eba  
Max Reed, Minister  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:30 a.m.  
Tuesday Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

**TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
C.P. Davis, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service 6:00 p.m.

**VANDERBILT HOLINESS CHURCH**  
Donald Mills, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service 6:00 p.m.

**VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Susana Taylor, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:45 p.m.  
Wed. Worship...7:00 p.m.

**VICTORY TABERNACLE**  
Ruby Lawson, Pastor  
Morn. Worship...10:30 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet. 7:00 p.m.

**WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Ken Wilson, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...10:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet. 6:30 p.m.

**WHITEWATER BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet. 6:30 p.m.

**WISE MILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Dustin Wisecarver, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

**WOODLAND GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Donnie Marler, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:30 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meet. 7:00 p.m.

**WOOTEN CHAPEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH**  
Mike Medley, Pastor  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...5:00 p.m.  
Wed. Service...7:00 p.m.

**ZION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Cary Maulden, Pastor  
Sunday School...9:45 a.m.  
Morn. Worship...11:00 a.m.  
Even. Service...6:00 p.m.

**THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST**  
Pastor Bishop E.H. Hill  
Sunday School...10:00 a.m.  
Noon Worship...12 noon  
Even. Service...7:00 p.m.  
Youth Ser. Mon...7:00 p.m.  
Wed. Bible Class...7:00 p.m.  
Fri. Missionary Ser. 7:00 p.m.

To Update Your Church Listing, please call us at (334) 897-2823!



## LIFESTYLES



Several members of the Elba High School Class of 1966 could be found enjoying breakfast together Tuesday morning, June 13, at the Elba Gulf Travel Center in Elba. Those gathering included Bobby Edmondson, Terry Calhoun, John Lawless, Jackie Tindol, Jerome Blackmon, Jerry Brown, Judy Brown, Neal Hutto, Kenneth Baker, and Harry Young (photography).



Luncheon Pilots Welcome New Member...Amie Kilgore (center) was recently inducted into the Luncheon Pilot Club of Enterprise as their newest member. LPCE Membership Director Gina Oates (right) welcomed her and told her of the mission of Pilot, which is to influence positive change in communities throughout the world. Kilgore's sponsor was Linda Peterson shown in photo on the left.

## RWCC meeting set for June 21

The Republican Women of Coffee County [RWCC] will meet Wednesday, June 21, at 11 a.m., at the Enterprise Country Club, 3000 Ozark Highway.

The guest speakers will be Mariah Montgomery, director of Downtown Main Street, Enterprise, and her intern, Clay Newscom. They will discuss downtown's mission and volunteer opportunities. RWCC will also be playing RWCC Bingo, a game which uses current events and political issues/figures instead of numbers.

### New Hope Senior Center looking for new participants

The New Hope Senior Citizens Center is taking applications for new participants. Must be age 60 or older. For more information, contact Conzuella Banks, center manager.

### Locals named to Provost's List at Troy University

Troy University has announced the names of students who have been named to the Provost's List for the Spring Semester and Term 4 of the 2022-2023 academic year.

Full-time undergraduate students who are registered for at least 12 semester hours and who have a grade point average of at least 3.65 qualify for the Provost's List. The Spring Semester includes students at the Troy, Ala., campus. Term 4 includes students at TROY's campuses in Dothan, Phenix City and Montgomery, Ala., along with locations outside of Alabama and online.

Local students who made the list include: Kymbria Bimbo, Elba; Nautica Morgan, Jack; and Seth Whitaker and Esteban Garcia, both of New Brockton.

Remember Dad this Sunday, June 18th!

Happy Father's Day!!



The Elba Chamber of Commerce is recognizing My Happy Place, located in the Shoppes at Taylor Crossing Center on Hwy 203 in Elba, as its "Business of the Month" for June 2023. Recently, Elba Chamber director Sandy Williams delivered the Business of the Month sign to owner Millie McCollough and her My Happy Place staff. This sign will be displayed at the store throughout the month of June. This Elba retail store also includes a cafe inside.

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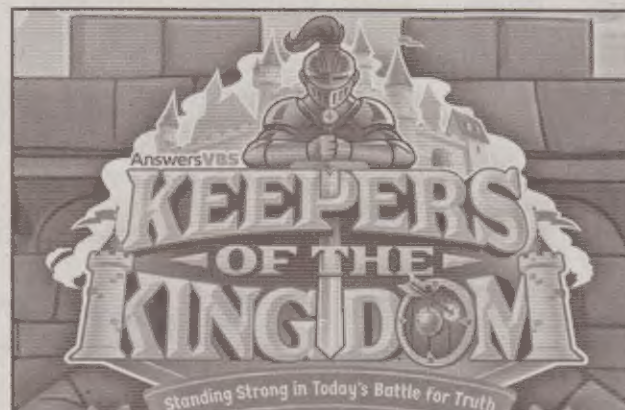
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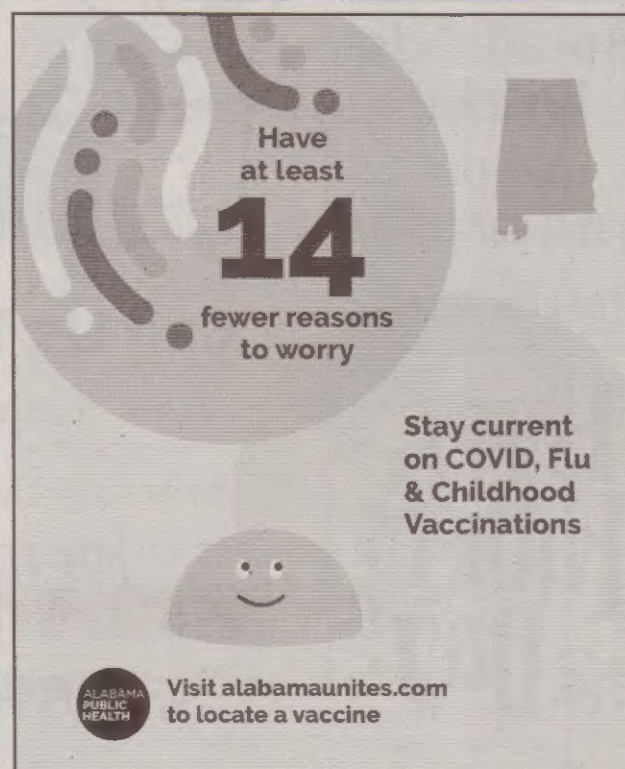
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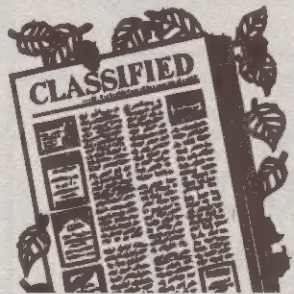
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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA  
ELBA DIVISION

CASE NO: PC 2023-008

IN THE MATTER OF ELMA LOUISE MORROW, deceased.

#### NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Letters of Administration of said deceased having been granted to RONALD MORROW on the 25th day of May 2023 by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be forever barred. Witness my hand this the 25th day of May 2023.

Ronald Morrow  
Personal Representative

Matt Brunson  
Attorney for the Estate  
6/1,8&15-pd.

**Notice of Public Sale.** An online sale will be held at [www.storage-treasures.com](http://www.storage-treasures.com) for A-Less Storage Enterprise, Alabama on or after 12:30 PM Thursday June 22nd 2023. Personal property of the following units will be sold for cash to satisfy owner's lien for due in accordance with AL Code § 8-15-34  
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6/8&15-chg.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA  
(ELBA DIVISION)

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF SELENA M. KING  
DECEASED

CASE NO PC 2023-034

#### ORDER OF PUBLICATION

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to ROY BURLEON KING, as Executor of the Estate of Selena M.

King, deceased, on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

ROY BURLEON KING  
Executor of the Estate of Selena M. King, deceased.

6-15,22,29-pd

IN RE:  
THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE  
OF LINDA R. BAUER,  
DECEASED

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

(Elba Division)

CASE No: PC 2023-035

#### NOTICE TO FILE CLAIMS

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of LINDA R. BAUER, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023, by the Honorable Jodee R. Thompson, Judge of the Probate Court of Coffee County, Alabama. Notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate that they are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or they will be barred.

/s/ Richard A. Bauer  
RICHARD A. BAUER  
Personal Representative of said Estate  
6-15,22,29-pd

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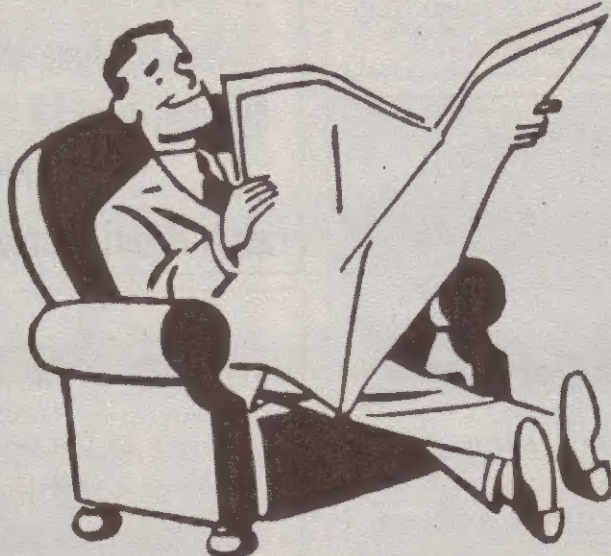
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## SPORTS NEWS

## Views From

## The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

*Our grandsons continued to stay busy* in much different ways last week as Lawson continued to do battle with creatures and foes on the computer, while Cannon began to crawl and forced his parents to make adjustments to their house. I've told both our girls to just hang on and enjoy the ride, and realize that the fun has just started.

*For what it is worth....*

\*\*\* *It seems a little strange* that high school basketball is underway in June, but all across the state high school teams are working at the gym almost every day and playing as many as three games a day against other teams at playdates and camps. Here at Elba, the Tigers were at Troy University two weeks ago and headed up to Auburn late last week for six games at a camp on the plains, while the Lady Tigers have a couple of playdates on their summer schedule and will go it for two weeks before giving the girls a break. I know that the coaches are looking more for effort from the players and the team, as well as attitude, and that the players that take part can prove that they are dedicated to the sport. After a couple of down years, it looks like the Tigers may be headed for a big season, and the Lady Tigers will be just as good as ever.

\*\*\* *I know the SEC isn't the most popular* college athletic conference in the nation due to its continued success in all sports, but the recent dominance isn't completely to blame for the fact that since 1934 a total of 453 football players that meet the first criteria to be inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame have not been enshrined. This year a total of twelve former SEC players were included on the ballot from the list of 206 players that were eligible.

The first criteria is that a player be a first team All-American, which accounts for the 453 former players on the list. Another criteria is that the player has to be out of football for ten years and cannot be on a current NFL roster. Included among the SEC players left off this year's ballot were Alabama's Leroy Cook, Terrence Cody and Barrett Jones.

There are a lot of former Alabama and Auburn players in the Hall of Fame, including the Tide's Dixie Howell, Don Huston, Harry Gilmer, Lee Roy Jordan, Cornelius Bennett, Derrick Thomas and Ozzie Newsome, while Tiger standouts in the Hall of Fame include Ed Dyas, Bo Jackson, Tucker Frederickson, Terry Beasley and Pat Sullivan, to name just a few. Among those that were eligible for this year's ballot that didn't make the list included Alabama's Antonio Langham, Paul Crane, Ray Perkins, Shaun Alexander, Rolando McClain, David Palmer and Jeremiah Castille, while Auburn greats included Takeo Spikes, Buddy McClinton, Aundray Bruce, Karlos Dansby, Cam Newton and Camell Williams.

I know everyone can't be in the Hall of Fame or it wouldn't be an elite fraternity. However, in the years to come maybe all the SEC haters will take a step back and put a few more Tide and Tiger players in the hall.

\*\*\* *Inclosing...* The big news in the world of professional golf last week was the surprising announcement that the PGA, DP Golf and LIV would merge and form a new tour beginning in 2024. While very few outside the loop will ever know why the merger took place, the old saying to 'follow the money' seems like a pretty good road map to understand the change. When a group of millionaires get together with a group of billionaires anything can happen, and last week proved that once again.

## Wood Ducks staying busy

The Alabama Wood Ducks were back on the field last week in baseball action and posted one win in four games to push their record to 3-4.

The Wood Ducks met the Expos 16U in an early season rematch and were shut out for the second straight game in a 5-0 loss. The Ducks trailed only 1-0 heading into the bottom of the fourth inning, but surrender four runs in the frame and never caught up. Payton Green and Tayshaun McReynolds had 1 hit apiece to lead the Ducks at the plate, while Josh Gutierrez and Trent Smith combined to pitch six innings and allowed one earned run on seven hits and three walks, while striking out 11.

The Wood Ducks took the field against Florida Bama 18U and used their bats to claim an exciting 9-3 win. Riley Simmons had 2 hits, scored 1 run and had 1 RBI to lead the Ducks at the plate, while Braxton Sherling added 1 hit, scored 1 run; Payton Green added 1 hit, scored 1 run and had 1 RBI; and, Josh Gutierrez, Hunter White and Tayshaun McReynolds all added 1 hit

and 1 RBI. Payton Green and Hunter Bedsole combined to pitch five innings and allowed three earned runs on six hits.

The Wood Ducks rallied from an early 4-0 deficit to grab a 5-4 second inning advantage, but couldn't hold on in a wild 8-5 loss to Prime 9 Gray 18U. Riley Simmons had 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead the Ducks at the plate, while Payton Green added 1 hit, scored 1 run and had 1 RBI; and Josh Gutierrez and Blake Peterson both had 2 RBI's. Austin Chappell and Trent Smith combined to pitch five innings and allowed two earned runs on 13 hits.

The Wood Ducks watched an early 1-0 lead vanish in a hard fought 3-1 loss to Florida Bama Scout 19U. Tayshaun McReynolds had 1 hit and 1 RBI to lead the Ducks at the plate, while Payton Green and Bryant Crumpler both added 1 hit, and Riley Simmons scored 1 run. Ty Sieving, Braxton Sherling, Hunter White, Josh Gutierrez, and Trent Smith combined to pitch six innings and allowed three earned runs on eight hits.

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## BALLS ARE BOUNCING AT ELBA HIGH



Elba Tiger coaches talk with players during a time out at a recent playdate at Troy University.



An Elba Tiger takes it to the basket in recent action at Troy against Wilcox Central.

## Elba Tigers plan to stay busy in month of June

The Elba Tigers have been hard at work throughout the month of June on the basketball court and the hard work and dedication has paid off with a number of impressive wins at team camps and playdates, as well as marked improvement in both team and individual fundamentals.

"We have worked hard for the past two weeks on becoming the best players and best team we can be and the attitude of the players has everyone excited that we have an exciting season ahead here at Elba High," stated Elba basketball coach Kelsey Prestwood. "The players have come to the gym ready to work, have made adjustments to their plans to make sure they would be at the workouts and have worked hard and done everything we have asked them to do. We will keep working throughout the month of June and on into July to get better as a team, and as players, and am convinced we will put a team on the court next season that everyone will be excited about and will be fun to watch."

The Tigers attended a playdate at Troy University last week and posted wins over a team from Prattville High School and

a high school team from Mississippi, while dropping its final game of the day to 5A power Wilcox Central.

"We only had eight varsity players at the playdate," said Coach Prestwood, "and while we did get a little

tired as the day went along, the desire to win was there and everyone dressed out got the chance to play and compete against three very good high school teams. We had good guard play, battled hard inside and were aggressive all over the court. I was pleased with the effort and the desire shown by the players, as well as the way they did as they were coached."

Elba was scheduled to compete in a camp at Auburn University this past weekend and on the two-day schedule were games against G.W. Long, Highland Home, Brindlee Mountain, Rocky Bayou Christian, Geraldine and Springwood.

"The trip to Auburn will give the players a chance to bond as a team and teammates," added Coach Prestwood, "and both play against teams we know and don't know. Playing six games in two days is

a challenge, but one that players look forward to, and games give coaches a chance to see their players on the floor, competing on every play. It is great to get in the gym and work on fundamentals, conditioning, and team offense and defense. However, in a game the players will show what they learned and where they need to improve.

That makes playdates very important and that is why we have plans to attend more during the month."

When asked about the rule change that eliminated one-and-one free throw opportunities, Coach Prestwood stated "I both like it and don't like it. The positives are that once our opponent make five fouls in a quarter we get two shots after every common foul,

and that at the end of the quarter the foul total resets. The negatives are that our opponents will also get two free throws, possibly at crucial situations, and late in the game the team that is trailing will have to be careful who it puts on the line. All coaches will be in the same boat since it has never been done before, and I do think it will change the game."

"We improved last season as a team and posted a winning record," added Coach Prestwood, in his third season as the Tigers head coach. "We lost in the second round of the area tournament to a team that made it to the final four and had a chance to take the lead in the second half on the team's home court. We got better as the season progressed as the season went along and found out the challenges we will face throughout the season and into the post-season. I believe with six seniors and four juniors on the team we continue to get better this season and challenge to make it even further in post-season play. Nothing worth having comes without hard work, and we are willing to work hard to accomplish our goals and do something that everyone will be proud of."

## Lady Tigers plan summer workouts

The Elba Lady Tigers began summer workouts this week in basketball and Coach Shaun Hammonds reported it would be a short summer for the girls as they will get together for two weeks and work on fundamentals, as well as compete in playdates.

"Most of the girls on the basketball team are actively involved in other extra-curricular activities and there isn't really a lot you can do if the players aren't present," started Coach Hammonds. "One plus is that of the 14 players that dressed out in Birmingham at the Final Four only one was a senior, and with 13 players returning we don't have to go back to square one. The girls know what I expect as a coach and know what we do on both ends of the court. So, while it never hurts to get on the court and work to get better as a player and as a team, we have a head start this year and when we get back in the fall we will work hard to get back to Birmingham."

"Another plus for the team is the fact five players are on summer travel teams and are getting in a lot of work on the court against quality competition," added Hammonds. "While summer ball can be both good and bad, at least the girls are serious about the sport of basketball and are willing to work during the summer break to improve their skills. I know a lot of teams will work all summer and play at camps and playdates. We will play in a couple of

playdates in the two weeks we are together, and should be ready to go."

When asked about the new rule that changes free-throw opportunities, Coach Hammonds stated "It is kind of a wait and see for everybody. If a team has depth in can help late in a quarter that they can have fouls to give away and not have the fouls carry over to the next quarter. You never really want an opponent at the line shooting two free throws, but in this case it may not hurt quite as bad since you have fouls to play

with. I'm sure coaches will experiment a little early in the season to develop a plan for later one, and it will be a work in progress."

"We have enjoyed a lot of success here at Elba High in recent years in girls' basketball and have made it to the Final Four twice in the last four years," said Hammonds. "Everyone in the program wants to continue that success and knows what it takes."

"We are looking forward to getting back together and having fun," added Hammonds.



COACH SHAUN HAMMONDS

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SPORTS

Local teams advance in Dixie Youth Baseball Division II tournaments



**ELBA 8U TEAM ADVANCES TO STATE TOURNAMENT...**The Elba boys 8U All-Star baseball team competed last week in the 2023 Dixie Youth Baseball District 9, Division II AA Baseball Tournament, which was held in Geneva, Ala. The Elba team advanced to the championship game Monday night, June 12, where they came in second to tourney champions Geneva. By placing second at the district tourney, the Elba team now advances to the Dixie Youth Baseball Division II State Tournament, set to begin Friday, June 23, in Headland, Ala. The team members and coaches are pictured above with the runner up trophy from the District Tournament. Team members include Christopher James, Ayden Foster, Judah Tidwell, Brodie Parks, Grayson Kirkland, Kip Brunson, Chaysen Jones, Gunner Dunn, Matthew Free, La'Darius Lockett, Isaiah Toney, and Hunter Kidd. Coaches include Dennis James, LoWayne Parks, Nigel Jones, and Brian Free.



**KINSTON 12U TEAM ADVANCES TO STATE...**The Dixie Youth Baseball District 9, Division II Ozone Tournament for 12U teams was held last week in Kinston. Kinston and Hartford battled for the championship with Hartford coming out on top. As runners up, the Kinston team (pictured above) also advances to the state tournament. Team members include Jon Simmons, Easton Parker, Jhett Creech, Jantzen Clark, Evan Hilburn, Rylen Hawthorne, Parker Weeks, Cameron McKinney, Luke Carnley, Ryan Blair, and Tucker Tinsley. Coaches are Hunter Parker, Justin Creech, and Henson Tinsley.

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Dixie Youth Baseball [DYB] District 9, Division II, tournaments for the age divisions of 8U, 10U, and 12U were held Thursday, June 8, through Monday, June 12, with local teams competing in the tourneys.

The DYB AA district tournament for 8U teams was held in Geneva, Ala. Locally, teams from Elba, Zion Chapel, Kinston, and New Brockton competed in the tournament. The Elba 8U all-star team advanced to the championship game Monday night. Elba lost to Geneva in this game; however, both Geneva and Elba now advance to the state DYB Division II tournament.

The DYB AAA district tournament for 10U teams was held in Elba, Ala. Teams from Elba, Zion Chapel, Kinston, and New Brockton competed in the tournament [see the completed tournament bracket below for results]. No local area teams advanced in this tournament. The two teams advancing to state from the DYB AAA District 9 tourney were district champs Geneva and runners-up Hartford.

As for the DYB Ozone district tournament for 12U teams, these games were held in Kinston, Ala. Not all local teams fielded 12U all-star teams for this tournament, but the Kinston team

did advance to the championship game. Kinston fell short of the win in the championship losing to Hartford but still advances to state as the tournament runners-up.

Due to less teams competing in the Ozone tournaments, three teams advanced to state. Joining Hartford and Kinston at the state competition will be the all-stars from New Brockton.

The DYB Division II State Tournaments for AA, AAA, and Ozone divisions will be hosted this year by Headland DYB District 6 with games to be played in Headland, Ala. Opening ceremonies will be Friday, June 23, at 9 a.m., and games will begin at Douglas Park at 11 a.m. that morning.

